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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,715	07/30/2003	Jong Seok Kim	9988.037.00-US	5368
30827 7590 07/06/2007 MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP 1900 K STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
			EXAMINER STINSON, FRANKIE L	
			ART UNIT 1746	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/06/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/629,715

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

FRANKIE L. STINSON

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

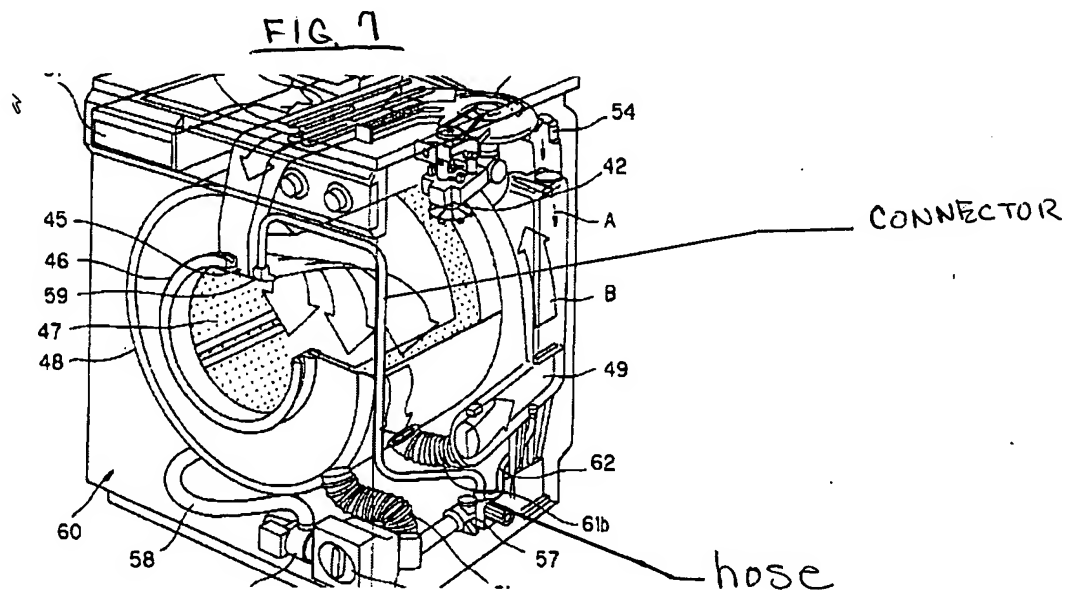
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1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn in favor of the following Office Action.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 18 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Tanigawa et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 6,032,494) or Breckenridge (U. S. Pat. No. 2,296,257) in view of either Haberstump (U. S. Pat. No. 2,264,307) or Syles (U. S. Pat. No. 2,966,052)



Re claims 1, 18 and 25, Tanigawa is cited disclosing a washing machine, comprising
a case/cabinet (60)

an outer tub (49, col. 11 lines 1-10) provided within the cabinet and storing water

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therein;

an inner tub (48) provided rotatable within the outer tub and having a plurality of holes communicating with an inner space of the outer tub;

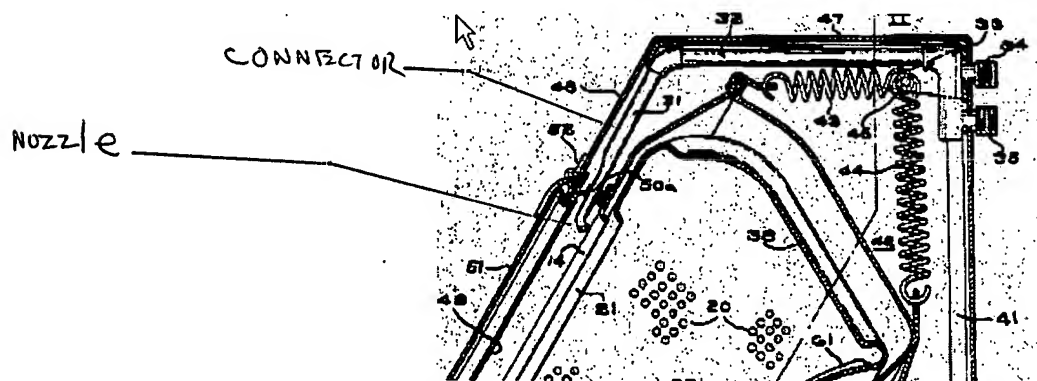
a circulation motor (as at circulating pump 57) that pumps the water in the outer tub, wherein the circulation motor communicates with a lower side of the outer tub;

a circulation hose (unnumbered, see fig. 7. above) that guides the pumped water, wherein one end of the circulation hose is connected with the circulation motor;

a gasket (46, col. 11 line 16) that prevents water leakage into the cabinet; and
an injection unit comprising:

a connector (unnumbered, see notation in fig. 7 above), wherein a first end of the connector is connected to the circulation hose and a second end of the connector penetrates the gasket, and
a nozzle (59) positioned below the gasket, wherein the nozzle is configured such that water is dispersed into the inner tub that differs from the claims only in the recitation of the water being specifically dispersed in a plurality of substantially horizontal directions

Re claims 1, 18 and 25, Breckenridge is cited disclosing a washing machine,



comprising

a case/cabinet (47, 48);

an outer tub (10) provided within the cabinet and storing water therein;

an inner tub (16) provided rotatable within the outer tub and having a plurality of holes (20) communicating with an inner space of the outer tub;

a gasket (50) that prevents water leakage into the cabinet; and

an injection unit comprising:

- a connector (31), wherein and
- a second end of the connector penetrates the gasket, and

a nozzle (unnumbered) positioned below the gasket, wherein the nozzle is configured such that water is dispersed into the inner tub that differs from the claims only in the recitation of the circulation motor communicating with a lower side of the outer tub that pumps the water in the outer tub, through a circulation hose that is connected to a first end of the connector and the water being dispersed in a plurality of horizontal directions.

The patents to Haberstump (page 3, right col., lines 21-25) and Syles (col. 8, lines 50-54) are each cited disclosing the arrangement of dispersing water in a plurality of horizontal directions as claimed (inherent in a fan shape spray). Also note that Syles further discloses a circulation motor (as at pump 61, col. 5, lines 8-17) and circulation hose (54) as claimed. Therefore, as shown in fig. 7 of Tanigawa, it appears that the water is dispersed in a plurality of horizontal directions although not specifically disclosed. Nonetheless, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the nozzle of Tanigawa, to have the water dispersed in a plurality of horizontal directions as taught by either Haberstump or Syles, since this is considered

to be a mere substitution of equivalents (see MPEP 2144.06 SUBSTITUTING EQUIVALENTS KNOWN FOR THE SAME PURPOSE) and for the purpose of thoroughly and quickly saturating the clothes and for the enhancement of the washing process. In regard to the Breckenridge reference, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the arrangement of Breckenridge to have include a circulation motor/pump/hose as taught by Syles, for the purpose of increasing the washing effect and efficiency of the supplied washing liquid, as is now common in the art. As for the water being dispersed in a plurality of horizontal directions, Syles and Haberstump are again cited as applied above, namely disclosing the fan shape spray, which, as positioned, inherently introduces water in a plurality of horizontal directions.

4. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applied prior art as applied to claims 1, 18 and 25 above, and further in view of Japan'188 (Japan 2001-9188), Germany'583 (Germany 38 11 583) or Germany'079 (Germany 43 30 079) .

Claim 2 defines over the applied prior art only in the recitation of the gasket having an annular rib to support the connector. Japan'188 (as at 6c), Germany'583 (as at 13, see fig. 3) and Germany'079 (as at 18 in fig. 2 and as at 22 in fig. 4) each disclose the rib. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify either gasket/seal of either Breckenridge or Tanigawa, to include a rib as taught by Japan'188, Germany'583 or Germany'079, for the purpose of securing the connection in position. Re claim 3, Germany'583 also discloses the projection (unnumbered) on the connector (24, see fig. 2). Re claim 3, Breckenridge discloses the single body.

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5. Claims 5-7, 10, 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applies prior art as applied to claims 1-5, 18 and 25 above, and further in view of either Dinkel (U. S. Pat. No. 783,826) or Franzen (U. S. Pat. No. 1,507,350).

Claims 5-7, 10, 19 and 22 define over the applied prior art only in the specific nozzle structure as claimed. Franzen and Dinkel are each cited disclosing the structure as claimed, namely the upper vertical and lower parts. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the nozzle/fan shape spray in either Breckenridge or Tanigawa, as already proposedly modified above, to be as taught by either Dinkel or Franzen, since this is considered to be a substitution of equivalents. It is noted the Dinkel and Franzen desire to direct the fan spray, directed in a *non-rearwardly* direction like that in Dinkel and Franzen.

6. Claims 8, 9, 20, 21, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applies prior art as applied to claims 1-5, 18 and 25 above, and further in view of either Mastman (U. S. Pat. No. 3,750,956) or von Bernuth et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 4,168,033).

Claims 8, 9, 20, 21 23 and 24 define over the applied prior art only in the recitation of the nozzle having the claimed a convex shape and grooved lower part as claimed. von Bernuth, and Mastman disclose the lower part having the convex shape as claimed and also note the grooves (31) in von Bernuth. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the nozzle/fan shape spray in either Breckenridge or Tanigawa, as proposedly modified, to have nozzle structure as taught

by either Mastman or von Bernuth, since it is old and well known to substitute for one fan shape spray nozzle, another fan shape spay nozzle.

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. However, in regard to the Tanigawa reference, note the "connector" (242) extending through gasket/sealer as shown in fig. 37.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. In Weiss, Robertson, Arndt, EPO'323, Zimark, Sacconato et al., Vande Harr, Conrad et al., Korea'585, and Wilkins, and EPO'876, note the gaskei and/or fan sprays.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-1308. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and some Saturdays from approximately 5:30 am to 11:30 am.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1700. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-272-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

fls

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frankie L. Stinson". The signature is stylized with a large "F" and "S".

FRANKIE L. STINSON
Primary Examiner
GROUP ART UNIT 1746